

Expressions of Interest: Engaging Nurses in Clinical Ethics (ENCE) Program

The ENCE program

A new program *Engaging Nurses in Clinical Ethics (ENCE)* is being offered at RCH in 2021. The aim of this program is to increase nursing confidence and engagement in clinical ethics discussions and decision making. The overall purpose is to optimise nursing input into clinical ethics issues at RCH. This program has been made possible support from the RCH Foundation and RCH Auxiliaries, through the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship, and the Children's Bioethics Centre.

The 2021 program will have an intake of up to 8 nurses who will undertake 2 full study days and 9 subsequent mentor sessions between April and October. Scholarship funding will support participants for the study days.

This program will be co-ordinated by Jenny O'Neill, CNC Nursing Research, with sessions run primarily by staff from the Children's Bioethics Centre.

To be eligible to apply for this program you must be:

1. *A registered nurse employed at RCH with at least 2 years paediatric experience.*
2. *Employed in a clinical role as an RN, CNS, CSN or AUM.*
3. *Able to commit to all program dates below.*
4. *Have your Unit Manager or Department Head approval.*

Please note that as this is a pilot program, we will be selecting participants from a variety of wards/ departments. Therefore where there is a ward/ department with more than one applicant, only one is likely to be accepted.

Program Objectives

1. *To upskill participants in clinical ethics knowledge, frameworks and common ethical issues in the paediatric setting.*
2. *To increase participant confidence and skill in taking part in ethical discussions.*
3. *To increase confidence in participants in initiating a formal ethics process.*
4. *To enable participants to develop the skills to act as a clinical ethics resource in their area.*
5. *To provide ongoing clinical ethics mentorship for the duration of the program.*
6. *To increase ongoing nursing involvement in clinical ethics at RCH.*

Commitment

Applicants must be able to commit to 2 full study days 8.30 -4:00 on: Friday
23rd April and
Friday 7th May

Applicants must also be able to commit to all mentor sessions 2:00 - 3:00 on the dates below:

Friday 21st May
Friday 4th June
Friday 18th June
Friday 16th July
Friday 30th July
Friday 13th August
Friday 27th August
Friday 10th September
Friday 8th October

In addition we will require participants to complete some activities outside these times. These activities will not be assessed and will not be designed to take significant amounts of time.

Participants will also be invited to participate in an evaluation of this pilot program, and feedback during and at the end of the course will be welcomed.

How to apply

1. *Fill in your part of the application form below*
2. *Ask your Unit Manager/ Department Head to endorse your application by completing their section. Note applications without Unit Manager/Department Head approval will not be considered*
3. *Submit your application by emailing to jenny.oneill@rch.org.au by **Wednesday 24th March 2021**. Successful applicants will be notified by **Monday 31st March 2021***

Questions?

Contact Jenny O'Neill:
jenny.oneill@rch.org.au

Engaging Nurses in Clinical Ethics (ENCE) Program Application Form

Part A: Applicant to complete:

Applicant Details

Name:

Ward or Department:

Position:

Previous ethics experience or training (for planning purposes only, previous experience/training will not affect the application outcome):

Yes

No

If yes please detail the experience/ training you have had:

Please list any other professional development you have completed in the last 2 years:

Can you attend all study days and mentor sessions listed above:

Yes

No

Please outline why you are applying for this program:

Please outline how you might use the knowledge gained from this program to benefit your ward/department:

Applicant Signature

Signature:

Date:

Part B: Unit Manager/ Department Head to complete:
Nurse Unit Manager/ Department Head Details

Name:

Ward or Department:

Position:

Will you support this applicant in attending the study days and mentor sessions on the dates above?

Yes

No

(Note funding is available for study days, but your support may include assistance ensuring leave from ward for study days and cover if rostered on during mentor shifts)

Please comment on the applicant's qualities that would enable them to make the best use of this opportunity:

Please comment how you might support this applicant to utilise the knowledge gained in this program to benefit your ward/department:

Nurse Unit Manager Signature

Signature:

Date: